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12/20/2005 02:42
PM

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To

cc

Subject

EIS

1 On November 10th, The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) released a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) addressing vegetation treatment on BLM lands. The public comment period for the EIS is currently under way and will last until January 9, 2006. By participating, you have the opportunity to voice your support for the responsible use of herbicides on public lands.

2 Because an EIS discussing this topic has not been renewed since 1991, many new and old herbicide treatments need to be addressed. Despite the proven benefits of using herbicides in integrated vegetation management strategies to successfully manage noxious and invasive weeds, we expect organized opposition to the EIS from environmental groups. To balance the public comments, it's important for the scientific community to provide feedback to the BLM supporting safe, effective use of herbicides.

3 We encourage you and/or your members and peers to send comments to the BLM by mail, fax or email in support of the continued responsible use of established reliable herbicides like Arsenal (imazapyr) and Escort (metsulfuron methyl) and the addition of newer, scientifically advanced chemistries, such as Plateau (imazapic), diflufenzopyr and fluridone that have been developed during the last 13 years. In addition, we recommend that individuals and organizations:

4 * Support the developed "Protocol for Identifying, Evaluating and Using New Herbicides" to facilitate evaluation and addition of new chemicals as

they become available in the future.

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* Support the "Preferred Alternative":

* Alternative B: Expand herbicide use and allow for use of new herbicides in 17 western states

* Strongly oppose all other alternatives:

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* Alternative A: No change from current EIS

* Alternative C: No use of herbicides

* Alternative D: Alternative B without aerial application of herbicides

* Alternative E: No use of present or future AHAS inhibitor herbicide

* Cite EPA approval of herbicides under the FIFRA registration process, the danger of limiting BLM's vegetation management tools and cite examples - from personal experience or knowledge - that if herbicide use and application methods are limited, BLM land will continue to degrade as reasoning for support of the "Preferred Alternative" and rejection of other alternatives.

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Thank you,

Steve Adams